



Summary of Recreational Groundfish Regulations for 2006 North-Central Management Area

Ocean waters between 40°10' N. latitude (near Cape Mendocino) and 37°11' N. latitude (near Pigeon Point)
Includes a portion of Humboldt County, Mendocino, Sonoma, Marin and San Francisco Counties, and most of San Mateo County

Species	Time Period ^{2, 3}	Depth Limit ^{2, 3, 4}	Daily Bag Limit ²	Min. Size Limit ^{1, 2, 5}
RCG Complex (including all species of <u>Rockfish</u> , <u>Cabazon</u> and <u>Greenlings</u> as defined in Section 1.91)	<u>Boat-based Anglers</u> ³ : Open: July-Nov Closed: Jan-June, Dec <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers</u> ³ : Open year-round SEE NOTE AT END OF TABLE	May only be taken or possessed in waters <i>less than</i> 120 ft (20 fm) deep ⁴ SEE EXCEPTION AT END OF TABLE	10 fish in combination per person; see sub- limits for cabazon, greenlings and bocaccio	See individual species and groups below
Canary and Yelloweye Rockfishes, Cowcod	CLOSED all year; NO RETENTION		NO RETENTION (zero)	
Bocaccio	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	1 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	10" total length
Cabazon	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	1 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	15" total length
Kelp or Rock Greenling	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	1 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	12" total length
Ocean Whitefish	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	10 fish per person	none
California Sheephead	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	5 fish per person	12" total length
California Scorpionfish	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	5 fish per person	10" total length
Lingcod	<u>Boat-based Anglers</u> ³ : Open: July-Nov Closed: Jan-June, Dec <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers</u> ³ : Open: Apr-Nov Closed: Jan-Mar, Dec	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person	24" total length
Other Federal Groundfish ⁶ (see Section 1.91)	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species

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Leopard Shark ⁷	<u>Boat-based Anglers³</u> <u>within San Francisco Bay, Bodega Harbor, Tomales Bay, Bolinas Bay, and Drakes Estero:</u> Open all year <u>Outside of the previously mentioned bays:</u> Same as RCG Complex, above <hr/> <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers³:</u> Open all year	<u>Boat-based Anglers³</u> <u>within San Francisco Bay, Bodega Harbor, Tomales Bay, Bolinas Bay, and Drakes Estero:</u> No depth restrictions <u>Outside of the previously mentioned bays:</u> Same as RCG Complex, above <hr/> <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers³:</u> No depth restrictions	3 fish per person	36" total length
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1. See regulations for information on gear restrictions and fillet lengths.

2. Subject to in-season change. Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at **(831) 649-2801**, visit the Marine Region Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd, send an e-mail to AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov, or call your nearest DFG office for the latest information.

3. Divers and shore-based anglers are exempt from restrictions affecting the RCG complex, ocean whitefish, California scorpionfish, California sheephead, and other federally managed groundfish (except for lingcod). The following definitions describe boat-based and shore-based anglers, and divers:

- Boat-based anglers are fishermen that fish from boats or vessels of any size or any other type of floating object, including kayaks and float tubes.
- Shore-based anglers are fishermen that fish from beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks and other manmade structures connected to the shore.
- Divers are spear fishermen entering the water either from the shore or from a boat or other floating object.

4. Waters less than 10 fathoms (60 ft.) in depth around the Farallon Islands and Noonday Rock are closed to fishing at all times. Waters of Cordell Bank less than 100 fathoms (600 ft.) in depth are closed to fishing at all times.

5. Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head with the mouth closed to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. Go to www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/measurement.pdf for a measurement illustration.

6. Pacific sanddab, butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, rex sole, rock sole, sand sole and starry flounder are exempt from restrictions that affect other federally managed groundfish ONLY when taken using the following gear: up to 12 No. 2 (or smaller) hooks and up to 2 lb. of weight.

7. The sport fishery for leopard shark inside San Francisco Bay, Bodega Harbor, Tomales Bay, Bolinas Bay, and Drakes Estero is exempt from restrictions that affect other federally managed groundfish.

EXCEPTION: These fish may be possessed in closed waters only aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water.

NOTE: Gray areas denote regulations that may change later in 2006 as a result of regulation changes proposed by the Department. See Footnote 2 for ways to keep informed of in-season regulation changes.